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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/064,793	08/16/2002	Takeshi Nishio	JP920010176US1	4091

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IBM CORPORATION
PO BOX 12195
DEPT YXSA, BLDG 002
RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC 27709

EXAMINER	
DALENCOURT, YVES	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2157	

DATE MAILED: 07/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/064,793	NISHIO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Yves Dalencourt	2157	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *16 August 2002*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-19* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-19* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This office action is responsive to communication filed on 08/16/02.

Claim Objections

Claims 1 and 7 are objected to because of the following informalities: It is suggested to insert – an – before e-mail transmitter (claim 1, line 2), and – a – before terminal (claim 1, line 3). Please delete " an " before recipient (claim 7, line 1) and insert – a --. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1 – 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bilbrey et al (US 2002/0103932; hereinafter Bilbrey)).

Regarding claims 1, 2, 7, and 11, Bilbrey teaches an e-mail system and method (1600, fig. 16A), comprising e-mail transmitter (102, fig. 16A; Bilbrey discloses a sponsor 102) having a plurality of recipient addresses (paragraphs [0080], lines 14 – 22; [0081], lines 1 - 9); and terminal (106, fig. 16A) connected to said e-mail transmitter

through a network (108, fig. 16A) for editing a reference list including one or more recipient addresses to be updated among said plurality of recipient addresses, said e-mail system includes an update function for updating said recipient addresses by referencing said reference list edited by said terminal (paragraphs [0082] – [0085]).

Regarding claim 3, Bilbrey teaches the e-mail system according to claim 1, further comprising a server for performing said update function based on a request sent from said e-mail transmitter (paragraph [0083]).

Regarding claim 4, Bilbrey teaches the e-mail system according to claim 1, wherein said reference list contains at least one new recipient address to replace at least one of said plurality of recipient addresses held by said e-mail transmitter (paragraphs [0057] – [0058]).

Regarding claim 5, Bilbrey teaches the e-mail system according to claim 1, wherein said reference list contains at least one recipient address to be deleted from among said plurality of recipient addresses held by said e-mail transmitter (paragraphs [0102] and [0108]).

Regarding claim 6, Bilbrey teaches the e-mail system according to claim 1, wherein said reference list contains at least one recipient address to be added to said plurality of recipient addresses held by said e-mail transmitter (paragraphs [0057], [0103] – [0105]).

Regarding claim 8, Bilbrey teaches the recipient address list updating method according to claim 7, wherein said update of said first recipient address list is performed

by referencing said difference list on a regular basis (paragraphs [0061], [0062], and [0080].

Regarding claim 9, Bilbrey teaches the recipient address list updating method according to claim 7, wherein said update of said first recipient address list is performed in response to an indication of the generation of said difference list (paragraph [0058]).

Regarding claim 10, Bilbrey teaches the recipient address list updating method according to claim 7, wherein said difference list includes at least one of (i) at least one address to replace, (ii) at least one address to be deleted from, and (iii) at least one address to be added to, the plurality of addresses contained in said first recipient address list; and said step of updating said first recipient address list comprises at least one of (i) the replacement of the at least one address to be replaced, (ii) the deletion of the at least one address to be deleted, and (iii) the addition of the at least one address to be added (paragraphs [0102] - [0108]).

Regarding claims 12 - 14, Bilbrey teaches a computer apparatus for updating a recipient address list containing a plurality of recipient addresses to which given information is sent (1600, fig. 16A), comprising: replacement module for replacing a recipient address contained in said recipient address list with a different recipient address (paragraphs [0057] – [0058]); deletion module for deleting a given recipient address from among the plurality of recipient addresses contained in said recipient address list (paragraphs [0102] and [0108]); addition module for adding a new recipient address to said recipient address list (paragraphs [0057], [0103] – [0105]); and reference list storage for storing a reference list containing said different recipient

address to be replaced, said recipient address to be deleted, and said new recipient address to be added (paragraphs [0095], [0099]).

Regarding claim 15, Bilbrey teaches the computer apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said recipient address list stored in said recipient address list storage is updated by at least one of said replacement module, said deletion module, and said addition module (paragraphs [0102] - [0108]).).

Regarding claim 16, Bilbrey teaches the computer apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising an input module for obtaining said recipient address list stored on a computer apparatus other than said computer apparatus (paragraphs [0095], [0099]).

Regarding claim 17, Bilbrey teaches the computer apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said obtained recipient address list is updated by at least one of said replacement module, said deletion module, and said addition module and said computer apparatus further comprises an output module for outputting said updated recipient address list to said another computer apparatus (paragraphs [0095], [0099]).

Regarding claim 18, Bilbrey teaches a computer apparatus for updating a recipient address list containing recipient addresses to which given information is sent (1600, fig. 16A), comprising: storage module for storing a difference list consisting of addresses that are differences between a first recipient address list before an update and a second recipient address list after the update (paragraphs [0095], [0099]); and display module for displaying said difference list (paragraphs [0076], [0079]).

Regarding claim 19, Bilbrey teaches the computer apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said storage stores at least one of (i) at least one new recipient address to

replace one of the recipient addresses contained in said recipient address list, (ii) at least one recipient address to be deleted from among the recipient addresses contained in said recipient address list, and (iii) at least one recipient address to be added (paragraphs [0057] – [0058]).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Jakob Nielsen (US Patent Number 6,405,243) discloses a method and system for updating email addresses.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yves Dalencourt whose telephone number is (571) 272-3998. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH 7:30AM - 6: 00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571) 272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Yves Dalencourt

July 7, 2005